

RECESSED MEETING
MARCH 13, 2003

The Ashland Board of Commissioners met in Recessed Session in the Commissioners' Chambers, City Building, Ashland, Kentucky, on Thursday, March 13, 2003, at the hour of 11:00 AM. Those present were Commissioners: Larry Branham, Larry Brown, Kevin Gunderson, Don Maxwell and Mayor Stephen E. Gilmore, who presided. Also present were: William H. Fisher, Jr., City Manager; Richard W. Martin, Corporation Counsel; Deborah Musser, City Clerk; Gail Melvin, Economic Development Director; Mark Osborne, Fire Chief; Rob Ratliff, Acting Police Chief; Tony Grubb, Finance Director; Steve Corbitt, Director of Public Services; Jim Shaw, Director of Planning and Community Development; Marion Russell, Assistant Director of Public Services; Kevin P. Sinnette, Assistant Corporation Counsel; and Greg Rice, Safety/Risk/Insurance Manager.

WORK SESSION

1. Newsletter name - "The Ashlander" was selected as the name for the newsletter from the contest where citizens made suggestions. Eldon Thompson, 3330 Randy Drive, was selected from those submitting the name as winner of the two tickets to the Paramount Arts Center's presentation of Neil Goldberg's Cirque on April 5, 2003.
2. Smoking policy in City buildings - Assistant Corporation Counsel Sinnette discussed the draft policy and the requirements from state law for governmental agencies adopting such a policy. The policy will be placed on the agenda for March 20.
3. Bicycle trail – City Manager Fisher distributed information discussed by the Transportation Task Force on the proposed bike trail. The discussions centered on safety liability and cost including maintenance. The proposed route causes concern because it includes state, private and school property. Corporation Counsel Martin explained the City incurs certain liability if it designates a route. The Task Force will review the regulations and include members of the two Ashland bicycle groups.
4. Water plant bonding – City Manager Fisher, Finance Director Grubb and Corporation Counsel Martin have a meeting tomorrow with the bonding agent. There was discussion with Finance Director Grubb about the projected amount to be financed and the City's current bond rating. The water plant expansion project has a targeted start date of April 1 once approval is granted by the Infrastructure Loan Authority.
5. Christie parking lot – City Manager Fisher circulated requested amendments to the City's agreement with John Christie received from Jack Morris, Kentucky Department for Facilities Management, Division of Real Properties. There was discussion about the amendments. City Manager Fisher was directed to discuss the requirements with John Christie. The item will be included on the March 20 agenda.
6. 14th Street parking lot – The Mayor and Commissioners received a copy of the design layout proposed for the lot. The design will add parking spaces. The money for the project is ½ of the federal funds received in the amount of \$1,000,000.00.
7. Façade revolving loan program – Motion was made by Maxwell, seconded by Branham, the \$95,000 Renaissance funds be designated as façade revolving loan program. Upon roll call, voting aye were Commissioners Branham, Brown, Gunderson, Maxwell and Mayor Gilmore. Nay – none. Motion passed.

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WORK SESSION CONTINUED

8. Sign Ordinance review – Planning and Community Development Director Shaw explained staff are continuing to deal with the temporary sign issue. Several alternatives were discussed to get the information to businesses and sign companies. Mr. Shaw reported that Mr. McKenzie, SuperAmerica, who appeared at the March 6 Regular Meeting had been provided with a copy of the sign ordinance. Staff was directed to review applications for business licenses, etc. to make sure there was sufficient information concerning sign regulations. The regulations will also be addressed in The Ashlander.
9. Library commons – Mayor Gilmore informed the Commission the Library Board had made a presentation to the Park Board last night concerning the construction of a solarium along the end wall of the library. The Library Board Chairman will make the presentation at the March 20 Commission meeting.
10. Combs study – A recessed meeting was scheduled for March 27 beginning at 10:00 AM to discuss the pay and classification study.
11. Southside park – The Southside Park Committee has a meeting scheduled at 4:00 PM this afternoon. The YMCA will not be sponsoring a softball league this summer.
12. Streetscape committee meeting – A streetscape meeting will be scheduled for Monday, March 24 at 6:00 PM in the Commission Chambers. The Mayor and Commissioner Maxwell will serve as representatives on the committee.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Branham, seconded by Maxwell, to go into Executive Session at 1:01 PM to discuss potential property acquisition and potential litigation. Upon roll call, voting aye were Commissioners Branham, Brown, Gunderson, Maxwell and Mayor Gilmore. Nay – none. Motion passed.

RECONVENED

The meeting reconvened at 1:25 PM and Mayor Gilmore announced that the only items discussed were potential property acquisition and potential litigation with no final action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Gilmore declared the meeting adjourned at 1:25 PM.

STEPHEN E. GILMORE
MAYOR

ATTEST:

DEBORAH MUSSER
CITY CLERK